

Resolving Conflict within Social Organizations

Society is a social organization and individuals collectively within it have to make decisions about how best to settle the conflicts which arise.

Societies change in many of their fundamental relationships. Canada has been no exception to this process. When Canada was formed in the nineteenth century, it was primarily a rural farming society which:

- had large families,
- was more patriarchal,
- was more religious, and which
- was less mechanized.

Change does not come easily because there is often little agreement between individuals and groups about what constitutes legitimate change.

Some examples of controversial change:

- enabling women to play a role in economic & political affairs outside of the family;
- preserving the family farm by giving farmers a fair price for their produce;
- giving the Aboriginal Peoples control over their economic, political, and legal affairs;
- setting aside one day per week as a day of rest;
- protecting the rights of minorities, however unpopular, to live their lives according to their consciences.
- protecting the rights of workers to form unions and withdraw their labour in a strike